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*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: COMPOSITION BASED ON TRIETHYL CITRATE FOR THE TREATMENT OF BACTERIAL INFECTIONS OF
THE SKIN

(57) Abstract: This invention concerns a composition for topical use containing as an active ingredient triethyl citrate either pure
or in combination with synergists, and the pharmaceutical or cosmetic use of the composition, on its own or in association with an
antibiotic, at least in the treatment of cutaneous pathologies directly or indirectly affected by bacterial infections.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/03/00530

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61K31/215 A61K47/00 A61K7/48

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P,X, L	EP 1 269 991 A (DE PAOLI AMBROSI GIANFRANCO) 2 January 2003 (2003-01-02) claims 1-8 page 2, line 48-53 See Preparations page 14, paragraph 49 ---	1-9
P,X, L	WO 03 061766 A (GEN TOPICS S R L) 31 July 2003 (2003-07-31) claims 1-8 see Preparations page 2, line 28 -page 3, line 12 --- -/--	1-9

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

19 December 2003

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

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International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 958 975 A (YU RUEY J ET AL) 28 September 1999 (1999-09-28) column 1, line 23-33 column 4, line 32-36 column 5, line 23-35 -column 6, line 11; example 11 ----	1-9
X	US 6 403 123 B1 (YU RUEY J ET AL) 11 June 2002 (2002-06-11) column 1, line 6-11 column 4, line 45 -column 5, line 13 column 5, line 57-67; example 1 ----	1-9
A	EP 0 566 368 A (UNILEVER PLC ;UNIV MANCHESTER (GB); UNILEVER NV (NL)) 20 October 1993 (1993-10-20) page 4, line 46 -----	1-9

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
T/IT 03/00530

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 9
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 1-5, 9
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.1

Although claim 9 is directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.

Continuation of Box I.1

Claims Nos.: 9

Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 1-5,9

Present claims 1-5, relate to an extremely large number of possible diseases encompassed by the term "cutaneous pathologies". A complete search is therefore not possible. Consequently, the search has been limited to those diseases which are defined in claims 6-9 and also the description on page 1, 1. 9-11, in addition to the term itself.

Present claims 1-3 and 9 relate to a compound, defined by reference to a result to be achieved, namely "synergist". The claims cover all compounds having this characteristic or property, whereas the application provides support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT for only a very limited number of such compounds. A meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is therefore impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to the the compounds defined in claim 4.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/03/00530

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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